

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

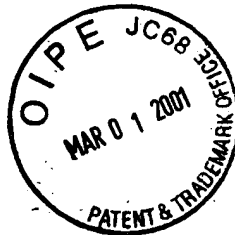
In re Patent Application of

MAERTENS et al.

Serial No. 09/638,693

Filed: August 15, 2000

For: **NEW SEQUENCES OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS
GENOTYPES AND THEIR USE AS THERAPEUTIC AND
DIAGNOSTIC AGENTS**



Atty. Ref.: 2752-15

Group: Unassigned

Examiner: Unassigned

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

JUN 15 2001

March 1, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

SUBMISSION

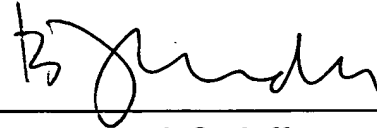
A review of the above-identified application and the Response filed November 14, 2000, has brought to the attention of the undersigned the fact that page 1 of the Response filed November 14, 2000, seeks to cancel claims 1 to 24, without prejudice, while adding claims 24 to 55. As noted on page 18 of the Response, claims 1 to 23 should have been canceled as opposed to the stated claims 1 to 24. The application was filed with 23 claims. Accordingly, the new claims 24 to 55 should be pending. The undersigned regrets the error made on page 1 of the Response of November 14, 2000. An early Action on the merits of claims 24 to 55 is requested.

MAERTENS t al.
S rial No. 09/638,693

Respectfully submitted,

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By: _____



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